

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

William O. Burke, III et al.

Serial Number:

09/128,289

Filed:

August 3, 1998

For:

**FLOOR MAT EXHIBITING REDUCED
RIPPLING EFFECTS AND IMPROVED
DELAMINATING CHARACTERISTICS
OF ITS TUFTED PILE FIBERS**

Group Art Unit:

1771

Examiner:

C. Juska

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This letter is in response to the Office Action dated July 2, 2001.

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 8 and 10 - 17 stand as rejected.

These claims were rejected as set forth in the Final Action dated November 21, 2000 and responded thereto in the Brief filed on April 11, 2001 except the Examiner has added the additional reference to Nagahama '565 in an attempt to meet the critical shrinkage limitation in the claims.

As previously set forth each of the claims require a carpet substrate which has a shrinkage of about 2.0 to about 2.5% None of the cited references anticipate this limitation even with the



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